

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Box: Patent Applications  
Volkmar UHLENDORF et al. : Group Art Unit: 3642  
Serial No.: Not Yet Issued : Examiner: D. Pihulic  
Filed: January 12, 1999 :  
For: ULTRASONIC PROCESSES AND CIRCUITS FOR PERFORMING  
THEM

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified continuation application, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ Please cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add the following new claims:

-- 8 18. A process for imaging an examination area containing an ultrasonic contrast agent, which comprises:

subjecting the examination area to ultrasonic energy of frequency,  $f_0$ , and imaging the examination area using reflected and/or backscattered signals generated by non-linearity of the contrast agent, which signals are frequency-shifted from the frequency,  $f_0$ .

19. A process for imaging an examination area containing an ultrasonic contrast agent, which comprises: